

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 17-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,671,253 of *Stewart* ("*Stewart*").

The Examiner has rejected claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Stewart*. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that amended claim 17 is not anticipated by *Stewart*. Amended claim 17 is a demodulator that includes the limitations

a power approximation circuit coupled to receive a real and an imaginary component of a complex signal, the power approximation circuit generating an approximate power value which indicates an actual power value for the complex signal by combining absolute values of the real and imaginary components using an averaging filter.

(Amended claim 17, emphasis added).

*Stewart* does not disclose a power approximation circuit that combines absolute values of signal components using an averaging filter as claimed in amended claim 17. Instead, *Stewart* discloses SNR estimation using an AGC error computation which involves multipliers that compute the squares of signal components. (See multipliers 300, 305 of Fig. 6 and col. 5, lines 61-65 of *Stewart*). The multipliers that compute the squares of signal components as taught by *Stewart* is the very type of expensive hardware that the present invention seeks to eliminate. (See page 2, lines 6-16 of the Specification).

In further contrast, *Stewart* does not combine absolute values of real and imaginary components of a signal as claimed in amended claim 17. Instead, *Stewart* forms an absolute value of an AGC error signal (*Stewart*, col. 6, lines 37-38) wherein the AGC error signal is obtained by computing the squares of signal components

(Stewart, col. 6, lines 4-9).

Given that claims 18-21 depend from amended claim 17, it is submitted that claims 18-21 are not anticipated in view of *Stewart*.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8-6-2001

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

17. A demodulator having a power approximation circuit coupled to receive a real and an imaginary component of a complex signal, the power approximation circuit generating an approximate power value which indicates an actual power value for the complex signal by combining absolute values of the real and imaginary components using an averaging filter.